

**PATENT APPLICATION
Q65728**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Daisuke NOHARA, et al.

Appln. No.: (TBA)

Group Art Unit: (TBA)

Confirmation No.: (TBA)

Examiner: (TBA)

Filed: August 8, 2001

For: ADDITIVE FOR RUBBER COMPOSITION, ADDITIVE COMPOSITION
FOR RUBBER COMPOSITION, RUBBER COMPOSITION AND TIRE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

18. (*Amended*) A pneumatic tire characterized by using a rubber composition as claimed in claim 14.

Please add the following new claims:

--19. *(New)* A pneumatic tire characterized by using a rubber composition as claimed in claim 15.

20. *(New)* A pneumatic tire characterized by using a rubber composition as claimed in claim 16.

21. *(New)* A pneumatic tire characterized by using a rubber composition as claimed in claim 17.--

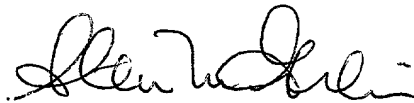
REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments, the multiple dependency of claim 18 is deleted so as to avoid the multiple claim dependency fee, and new claims 19-21 are added in lieu thereof.

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees due (except the Issue Fee) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: August 8, 2001

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

18. (*Amended*) A pneumatic tire characterized by using a rubber composition as claimed in [any one of claims] claim 14 [to 17].

New Claims 19-21 are added.